Private Aid and Development: Evidence from Million Dollar Donations

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Abstract

This paper investigates the role of private aid in meeting global challenges in developing countries in the 21st century. We use a newly available data set that provides unique information about publicly announced private donations of a million dollars or more between 2000 and 2010 from U.S. individuals, foundations, and corporations to international causes. In the past decade, there has been a significant growth in private aid; however, only a handful of studies have examined the size and composition of private aid to developing countries. Our analysis reveals that private aid toward developing countries is focused on key subsectors, with a significant share of private aid targeted at health and education. In general, we find that private aid to developing countries is positively associated with population size, incidence, and the severity of natural disasters, with more populous countries and countries that experienced more severe disasters receiving more private aid. Interestingly, while aggregate incidence and levels of private aid are positively associated with disasters, private aid is less responsive to development indicators and other factors that have been shown to be of importance for official development assistance (ODA).

I. Introduction

In 2006, Warren Buffett gave a mega-donation of $30 billion to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for programs seeking to reduce inequities around the world. Recent estimates suggest that combined U.S. private flows to the developing world were over four times larger than official development assistance (ODA) flows in 2010, totaling approximately $326.4 billion (Hudson Institute, 2012). In the past two decades, an influential group of private donors including individuals, foundations and global corporations are playing a growing role in addressing challenges facing developing countries. As private aid toward developing countries gains attention, new questions and challenges have emerged.

Some researchers and policymakers have suggested that the scale and scope of private aid to the developing world has the potential to overtake official development assistance (ODA) (Kharas, 2007). Yet, others have suggested that private aid will reshape the landscape of development assistance. In particular, some observers have suggested that private aid can offer solutions that government aid cannot (Bellagio Initiative, 2012; Adelman, 2009; Goldberg & Jarvis, 2008), particularly in addressing global health and education. While ODA has been criticized for bureaucratic waste and inefficiency (Bauer, 1972; Cassen, 1987; Easterly & Pfutze, 2008; Sachs, 2005; Moyo, 2009; UN Millennium Commission, 2005), researchers have argued that private donors may be more flexible and face lower transaction costs in meeting needs in developing countries. In fact, survey evidence from some donor countries suggests that private aid is viewed as more effective than ODA in its ability to respond rapidly to emergencies and critical needs (Atkinson & Eastwood, 2007).[1]

At present, very little is known about flows of private aid. Who gives private aid to developing countries – how important are individuals, corporations and foundations? Which countries receive private aid – and what types of causes are receiving private-aid flows? Given the rising visibility of private aid, it is surprising that there have been few studies that shed light on private flows. This

[1] Still, private aid may lead to challenges for the donor's home country and recipient countries. From the perspective of multilateral and bilateral donors, private aid flows to developing countries may undermine, rather than complement, aims and goals of large-scale ODA projects (Edwards, 2011).

paper uses a newly available data set to explore three previously unanswered research questions. First, what are the trends in large private donations? Secondly, what country-level factors influence U.S. private giving at the million-dollar level? Lastly, how does private-aid allocation differ from ODA allocation?

This study sheds new light on private aid flows in international development. The findings from this study provide new insights into factors that influence private aid, as well as illustrate how private aid differs from official development assistance (ODA). Theoretical models of private donations suggest that private donors may give to the developing world due to altruistic preferences, "warm glow" motives, or due to the desire to make an impact or "impact philanthropy." We test the altruistic preferences and impact philanthropy models, which predict that higher private aid flows in response to conditions in the receiving country. We find evidence that private aid responds to conditions in developing countries. However, we take a number of steps to assess the validity of the empirical strategy. First, our main specification includes country fixed effects which allow us to control for unobserved, time-invariant country-level variables. Second, we also examine alternative empirical strategies including a Poisson model to test the robustness of the results, and find that private aid flows tend to be responsive to health conditions in the receiving country.

The paper is organized as follows. The next section provides an overview of the theoretical models of private donations, followed by the theoretical framework of our analysis in Section III. In Section IV we present the data. Section V describes recent trends in private giving to developing countries and the distribution of this aid across countries. Section VI explains our empirical strategy, and section VII discusses the main findings and presents estimates of how conditions in developing countries are related to private aid flows. This section also explores the robustness of the findings. Section VIII presents conclusions.

II. Private Aid and Development: An Overview of Theories on Private Donations

With the rising visibility of private donors in development, there is renewed interest in understanding the factors that influence private aid. The theoretical literature provides some insights into motivations of private donors to developing countries. This literature can be divided

into three distinct strands. The earliest class of models focuses on altruistic preferences. Under altruism, private donors give because they care about the production of a global public good such as global health, peace and security, women's health and education and give in order to contribute to the production of the public good. Within the altruistic model, a key concern is the "free-rider" problem where a given private donor will reduce his or her contributions as other donors increase their contributions toward public good provision.

A second class of models emphasizes the private consumption, or "*warm glow"* motives for giving in which donors obtain private benefits from their donations (Andreoni, 1993). Within "warm glow" models, individuals receive utility from the act of giving, providing individuals with positive emotional benefits as they help others. Because private donors are motivated by the personal satisfaction they derive from their contributions, the contributions of other donors does not necessarily reduce the benefits that a specific donor derives from giving. This implies that the free rider problem is of less concern within the "warm glow" framework.

More recently, scholars have emphasized non-economic motivations for private donations, such as the need to make a difference; desire for visibility, social recognition and status; and social pressure, which may influence overall patterns of individual giving (DellaVigna, List, & Malmendier 2009). Duncan (2004) emphasizes "impact philanthropy," a model in which the donor gives in order to "make a difference". Similar to altruism, impact philanthropy suggests that the contributions of others may reduce the incentive of a specific private donor to give. This motivation emphasizes the independent effect of one donor's donation, and the impact of donors that support that cause. These models may be particularly relevant in explaining the giving patterns of private donors that make large donations to fund causes in developing countries (Lloyd, 2004). In particular, giving by others to fund causes in the developing world can reduce the benefits for an impact-driven donor. Stated clearly, an impact philanthropist may derive less benefit if other philanthropists are engaged in a cause.

An additional model — the "identification" model put forth by Atkinson (2009) — incorporates elements of "impact philanthropy" However, the unique insight associated with the identification model is that the donors care about the ultimate recipients of the donation, and not just making a difference. Arulampalam, Backus, and Micklewright (2011) reveal that private donors "'identify with the ultimate recipients on a one-to-*m* basis." The variable *m*, a "marginal" unit, represents the

singular destination of the donor's donation and "enters the donor's utility function." Arulampalam, Backus, and Micklewright (2011) also link Atkinson (2009) and Duncan (2004), by remarking that the inclusion of this single donation's marginal impact – but not "the well-being of all recipients" – into the donor's utility function is similar to the "impact giving" model of Duncan (2004).

Although private donors are often discussed in aggregate terms, it is important to note that individuals, corporations and foundation donors may face different motives and constraints in their funding causes in developing countries. For example, corporations may engage in private aid in order to advance their profit goals or to further corporate social responsibility objectives (Pharoah, 2011; Moir & Taffler, 2004). In contrast, some foundations may emphasize meeting education, health, gender equity and social needs as a primary area of grant-making (Lew & Wójcik, 2009), and foundations may be more proactive and dedicated to selecting program areas in which to invest (Katz, 2007).

In contrast to models of altruism and "warm glow" found in the literature on private donations, existing models of government aid emphasize a variety of complex motivations for providing ODA, only some of which are directly related to gender equity, poverty alleviation, basic needs and economic development. Some donor countries may provide aid to their former colonies as a means of retaining some political influence rather than solely in response to poverty or to improve gender equality (Alesina & Dollar, 2000; Bandyopadhyay & Wall, 2007).

III. Data

This paper uses a new data source, the Million Dollar List (Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, 2011) to overcome the challenges associated with studying private aid flows. The Million Dollar List (MDL) is a publicly available data set providing an in-depth view of private aid to developing countries through a comprehensive picture of publicly announced donations valued at $1 million or greater originating in the United States. The MDL has been compiled by the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy since 2000. The MDL provides a unique perspective on trends in private aid at the highest levels by individuals, corporations, foundations, and other grant-making nonprofit organizations. The main advantage of the MDL is that it provides donation-level information on a quarterly and annual basis, allowing us to better understand private aid

trends and patterns. This donation-level view contrasts with many of the data sources already in existence. For example, *Giving USA*, an annual comprehensive report on charitable giving in the U.S., tax data provides aggregate view of giving, showing overall trends in total U.S. giving to international causes. The MDL, on the other hand, can be considered a more disaggregated look at giving, since it provides an in-depth view of private donations at the million dollar level and above.

An important advantage of the MDL data is that it includes more than 67,000 qualifying donations from calendar years 2000 to 2011. This figure includes donations from individuals, private and corporate foundations, corporations and other grant-making nonprofits. The majority of these donations fall below the $5 million level (83 percent), and many of the donations are made by donors who gave only one such qualifying donation (67 percent). In fact, approximately 22 percent of all of the donations captured on the MDL were valued at exactly $1 million at the time they were given or pledged. Out of the 67,000 total donations tracked in this database, 1,334 were made to international or overseas recipients and causes.

The MDL's data collection sources include: *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*'s monthly publication and attendant website, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*'s weekly publication, NOZA Search's weekly announced donations, Factiva, LexisNexis Academic, the Philanthropy News Digest from the Foundation Center, Google email alerts and the Foundation Search database (obtained from tax records). Many of these sources provide daily and weekly updates. Once qualifying donations are identified, researchers code each donation and enter it into a central database. Specific data coded for each donation include donor name, recipient organization, state, country, and subsector in which private aid is allocated such as education, health, the environment; donation amount and notes; source of information; date reported; and year and quarter of the donation.

For the empirical analysis of private aid flows to developing countries, we focus on the component of the MDL data based that is obtained from tax records. This means that the main empirical analysis includes only donations from foundations and corporations, and excludes individual donors.

From the tax records components of the MDL database, we note 804 donations made by foundations, corporations and corporate foundations to recipients in developing countries from 2000 to 2010, with a combined value of $2.72 billion U.S. All dollar figures are inflation adjusted to

2011 values. In contrast to the publicly announced data sources, we should note that the tax data excludes donations made by individuals in order to maintain confidentiality of donors. Foundations make the largest number and dollar amount of million-dollar-plus donations to developing countries. In particular, foundations account for 85 percent of the total number and total dollar amount of million dollar donations.

However, although the tax records have important strengths, they have limited information about the donor, recipient and motivations for the donations. To better understand the specific composition of private aid, we also draw on the component of the MDL that is based on public announcements which contains extensive information about the actual recipient of the donation.

To obtain specific information about the nature of the donation, we rely on the publicly announced subset of the MDL database which includes donations made by individuals, foundations, and corporations and corporate foundations to foreign recipients in developing countries from 2000 to 2010...

Our interest in private aid to developing countries allows us to go beyond information available in tax records, and to rely on the donation notes available in the publicly announced component of the MDL database

We note that the MDL allows us to better understand the role of various donor groups in private aid, specifically individuals, foundations, corporations and corporate foundations. Based on the initial analysis of the publicly announced MDL donations, a number of patterns emerge that may limit the dataset. First, the publicly announced component of the data may underreport donations made to religious organizations and small nonprofits both of which are less likely to publicly report or obtain media coverage of such donations. Second, specific donations as reported may differ from the actual size of the donation or estimated value, for instance, of non-monetary contributions such as artwork, stock or in-kind support. Finally, there may be some duplication in donation reporting due to variation in how the media covers these contributions and the timing of the reports compared to data drawn from tax records.

IV. Recent Trends

A. Overall Private Giving to Developing Countries

In the data analysis, we study donations made through international charitable organizations at the million dollar level that are reported on tax records. Figure 1 shows U.S. private aid to developing countries has grown since 2000, and achieved record levels in 2006 and 2009. The highs in private aid flows achieved in 2006 and 2009 may be linked to the international humanitarian disasters including the Southeast Asian Tsunami in 2005 and the Chinese (Sichuan) earthquake in 2008. We should note that the number of international disaster relief donations also increased significantly in 2005 and in 2010.

Figures 2 and 3 also use the publicly announced data set from the Million Dollar List to provide an in-depth view of the causes and issues that receive million dollars and above contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations. It is striking to note that a large share of the number of donations as well as the value of private aid is allocated toward health-related causes. Important end uses of private aid also include disaster relief and education in developing countries.

Overall, the growth in private donations during the past decade mirrors overall trends in giving to U.S.-based international organizations which has grown steadily at a 9.4 percent average annual rate of growth (*Giving USA* 2012). Giving to developing countries by U.S. donors was estimated to be $8.2 billion (inflation adjusted) in 2000 and $22.68 billion in 2011 (*Giving USA* 2012). Since 1987, inflation-adjusted giving to the international subsector has grown much faster than the average annual rate of inflation (4.4 percent from 2010 to 2011), with an average annual growth of 9.4 percent (*Giving USA* 2012).

In contrast, U.S. ODA has primarily been given for humanitarian purposes, institution-building and political and strategic purposes. The total gross disbursement of U.S. ODA has also grown significantly over the past decade. After a slight drop between 2006 and 2007, falling from $8.9 billion to $8.1 billion, U.S. ODA grew to $13.3 billion in 2010 (World Bank 2013). Between 2000 and 2010, the top two recipient countries of ODA were Afghanistan and Egypt. This differs from private aid flows with China and India receiving the largest number of donations and total dollar amount among the developing country sample.

B. Which countries receive private aid?

An important question in our analysis is which countries tend to receive private aid. In general, the ODA literature has sought to examine which countries receive official aid. We discuss parallel results on private aid here. When we analyze the MDL data, we find striking differences between the continents and countries that receive private aid.

Appendix A provides information on the top recipients of private aid among developing countries using tax records as well as public announcements. Based on tax records, the continent receiving the largest number of million dollar donations and total dollar amounts is Asia, with a total number of 357 donations valued at $998 million. The second largest is Africa, with a total number of 227 donations valued at $822 million. In addition, Asia includes four countries listed in the top 10 countries receiving the largest number of donations and four countries among the top 10 receiving the largest total amount of donations. Asia received approximately 45 percent of all million dollar donations to developing countries. Fifty-one developing countries are identified by the tax records as recipients of private aid. The top 10 recipient countries received approximately 66 percent of the total number of donations to developing countries, and about 69 percent of the total dollar amount.

Appendix B provides information on the top recipient countries of private aid using both tax records and public announcements. We should note that tax records, which focus on foundations and corporations, indicate a different pattern from the database constructed from publicly announced donations only. Based on the detailed donation-level information on publicly announced donations, we find that 61 developing countries received private aid. The top 10 recipient countries received approximately 28.4 percent of the total number of donations to developing countries. The total amount of the top 10 countries receiving the largest donations accounts for about 22 percent of the total dollar amount. Donations to unspecified country recipients account for about 27 percent of the total number of donations, and 36.8 percent of the total amount. Donations to multiple countries account for 26.1 percent of the total number of donations, and 31.5 percent of the total amount. Appendix C provides additional information on the million dollar donations to developing countries by cause.

V. Empirical Methodology

To analyze the effects of country-level factors on private aid to international causes, we examine the MDL data according to recipient country. This allows us to investigate the factors that influence private aid over time. We first analyze the how certain factors affect the likelihood of receiving a donation in a certain year. The key dependent variable in this analysis is a binary variable. The binary variable takes on the value 1 if country *i* received a private donation in year *t* and 0 otherwise.

The baseline fixed effects probability model is:

$$Incidence\ of\ Private\ Aid_{,t} = \alpha + \beta\ country\ characteristics_{it} + u_i + \Theta t + \varepsilon_{i,t.}$$

This primary data analysis is based on a fixed effects model, which allows us to estimate the impact of country-level characteristics on private aid while controlling for time invariant country characteristics, u_i. Θt represents a vector of year dummy variables. We analyze the impact of key economic variables that vary over time measured at the country level by year in logs, including logs of GDP per capita, GDP per capita squared, population, and population squared, adult mortality, adult literacy, life expectancy, as well as number of natural disasters, death tolls from disasters, and government effectiveness.

We also analyze the number of private donations received by a given country over the past decade. In particular, we examine the total number of donations and amounts received by a given country. We also examine alternative specifications given that the number of donations is highly skewed with most countries receiving relatively few million dollar donations during the past decade, The Poisson specification is used to investigate the factors that influence the number of donations. The Poisson model is used to model count variables, and also to reflect the highly skewed distribution of private aid. We also examine the likelihood of receiving more than the median number of aggregate donations (8) by country *i* between 2000 and 2010. Unlike the first model, this model is aggregated. The dependent variable is binary. The binary variable takes on value 1 if the country received 8 or more donations and 0 otherwise. The aggregate probability model is:

$$Number\ of\ Donations_i = \alpha + \beta\ country\ characteristics_i + \varepsilon_i$$

The regression analysis includes clustered standard errors, which recognize that errors for a given country are likely correlated, as well as robust t-statistics to deal with heteroskedasticity. To test the robustness of the aggregate models, results from OLS regressions on total number of donations and Tobit regressions on the natural log of the total amount of donations are included.

Table 1 provides detailed definitions of the key variables used for this study. We provide summary statistics of the key variables used in the analysis in Table 2.

VI. Results

A. Overall Likelihood of Receiving Private Aid

Table 3 presents the fixed effects probability model results. The fixed effects probability model includes both country and year fixed effects in order to control for unobserved, time-invariant country-level heterogeneity, as well as year-specific effects. We first discuss the results on the probability of receiving a donation for a given country annually. Taken together, the probability of receiving a donation for a country is associated with conditions in the host country.

First, we find that the likelihood of private aid is positively associated with a given country's population, holding other variables constant. From columns 1-5 in Table 3, we find that an increase in population is positively associated with the likelihood of receiving private aid and is statistically significant. This is interesting given that there has been some evidence that ODA may be more likely to flow to smaller countries, other things being equal. It is also important to note that government effectiveness is positively associated with the likelihood of receiving private aid. This suggests that private aid is more likely to go to a country with more effective institutions. We should also note that we find a positive association between log GDP per capita and the probability of receiving a donation for a given country. This suggests that richer countries may be more likely to receive private aid, which may fail to support the model of altruistic preferences of private aid.

A related question in our analysis is the impact of health and education conditions on the receipt of private aid. The literature on private aid suggests that private donors respond to initiatives that can improve access to health and education, for example, which can subsequently improve conditions in developing countries. Models of altruism and/or impact philanthropy predict that countries where conditions with less favorable conditions are more likely to receive private aid flows. We examine the role of key variables that capture overall development conditions in a given country such as adult mortality rates, literacy, and life expectancy.

Column 2 in Table 3 includes adult mortality only. In column 3, we include adult literacy in order to examine its impact on the number of private donations received. Column 4 presents results on life expectancy. Column 5 includes all three measures of conditions in a given country. In the fixed effects probability model, we do not find that overall development conditions are associated with the likelihood of receiving private aid.

B. Private Aid Over the Decade: Aggregate Specifications

Both the incidence and levels of private aid to developing countries increased greatly between 2000 and 2010. To understand this trend, we investigate the aggregate number and level (i.e., total dollar amount) of private donations received during this period by a given country. In each aggregate model, we include control variables for adult mortality, female adult literacy, GDP per capita, population, number of natural disasters, and severity of natural disasters, all in 2000 levels and in log form. We include time-invariant country-level attributes, including continent dummies and geographic distance to gain insights into how these country-level variables influence aggregate private aid flows. In addition, we examine the impact of religion on the receipt of private aid.

Table 4 presents results with the number of million dollar donations received over the past decade as the key dependent variable. The first specification is based on an OLS regression model. Table 5 also presents the total number of private donations received over the past decade, using a Poisson model.

Taken together, the results in Tables 4 and 5 provide shed light on the determinants of private aid received by a specific country over the past decade. From Table 4, we find that, similar to the fixed

effects models presented in Table 3, population is positively associated with private aid. We also find that distance (in natural log) is negatively associated with the total number of donations, holding other factors constant. The incidence of disasters (measured by the number of disasters) is also positively associated with the number of million dollar donations. However, the intensity of disasters measured by the number of deaths is not significantly associated with the number of million dollar donations.

From Tables 4 and 5, the impact of development indicators on the number of million dollar gifts is unclear. From Table 4, the total number of million dollar donations is positively associated with adult life expectancy and literacy, which do not provide support for the altruistic model of private donations.

In Table 6, we examine the number of gifts that a country has received taking into account the highly skewed distribution of gifts. In particular, we create an indicator variable that captures the intensity of donations received. In particular, we measure whether a country has received more than the median number of donations. The dependent variable here is defined as 1 if a given country has received more than the median number of donations, or zero otherwise.

Based on Table 6, we find country size is positively associated with the intensity of donations. In addition, the distance from the U.S. is negatively associated with the intensity of donations. When we examine the intensity of gifts, we find more evidence to support the model of impact philanthropy in which countries with less favorable conditions receive more aid flows. In particular, we find that in Table 6, column 4 that higher adult mortality is significantly associated with the intensity of donations. Column 4 includes overall controls for adult literacy and adult life expectancy. Table 6 also includes continent controls for unobserved attributes of a given region.

We also consider the level of donations received by a given country in Tables 7 and 8. The key dependent variable in these specifications is the natural log of the total amount (i.e. dollar value) of million dollar donations from 2000 to 2010 in a certain country. Tables 7 and 8 also include continent controls. We use the OLS specification in this model (Table 7) as well as Table 8.

When we analyze results that rely on the levels of private donations (measured in $) that a given country has received over the past decade, the findings are similar to those based on the incidence

and intensity of donations received. Consistent with the earlier findings, population is positively associated with the level of private donations. In addition, population squared is negatively associated with the level of private donations. It is also interesting to note that that the incidence of disasters is positively associated with the level of private donations. Similar to the earlier findings, the level of private donations is not significantly associated with GDP per capita. Mirroring earlier results, distance from the U.S. is negatively and significantly associated with the total number of million dollar private donations. Table 7 includes continent controls.

Tables 7 and 8 also show that human development indicators including adult mortality and adult literacy are not significantly associated with the level of million dollar private donations. Columns 1-4 suggest that the presence of less favorable conditions (i.e., adverse health conditions and low levels of education) are not significantly associated with the level of donations, which provide less support for models of altruism and impact philanthropy. However, both tables also show that the number of disasters and deaths are positively associated with the level of donations. This may suggest that private donations may play an important role in providing for acute needs that emerge during humanitarian disasters, but may be less targeted toward on-going development assistance.

C. Robustness Checks

An important concern is the role of religion and other social and cultural factors in explaining million dollar donations received by a given country. To examine this issue further, we have considered the role of religion, language and other socio-cultural factors . We have considered the impact of including religion and language indicators in the models of incidence, intensity and level of private donations. We find similar results across models that include linguistic and religion controls. Comparing to the model with religion controls we find that the mortality rate (in natural log) has a positive, significant relationship with the total number of donations agreeing with the Poisson results. Also like the Poisson results, the model with religion controls shows that a country's life expectancy (in natural log) is negatively associated with the total number of donations.

An additional robustness test involved alternative specifications to model the incidence as well as the total amount received by a given country over the past decade. In this model, the dependent

variable is the total amount (i.e., dollar value) of private donations received over the past decade. Similar to the OLS results discussed above, population and disasters both have a positive association with the total amount of donations (in natural log). Distance is also negatively associated with the total amount of donations (in natural log) as shown in the OLS results. We do not find a

VII. Conclusions

We use a newly available data set that provides unique information about publicly announced private donations of U.S. donations of a million dollars or more between 2000 and 2010. We study of the relationship between private aid and characteristics of recipient countries. In the past decade, there has been a significant growth in private aid; however, only a handful of studies have examined the size and composition of private aid to developing countries. In general, we find that private aid to developing countries is positively associated with population size and the severity of natural disasters, with more populous countries and countries that experienced more severe disasters receiving more private aid. This suggests that private aid may play an important in addressing natural disasters. Interestingly, private aid is less responsive to geo-political and strategic factors that are shown to be of importance for Official Development Assistance (ODA).

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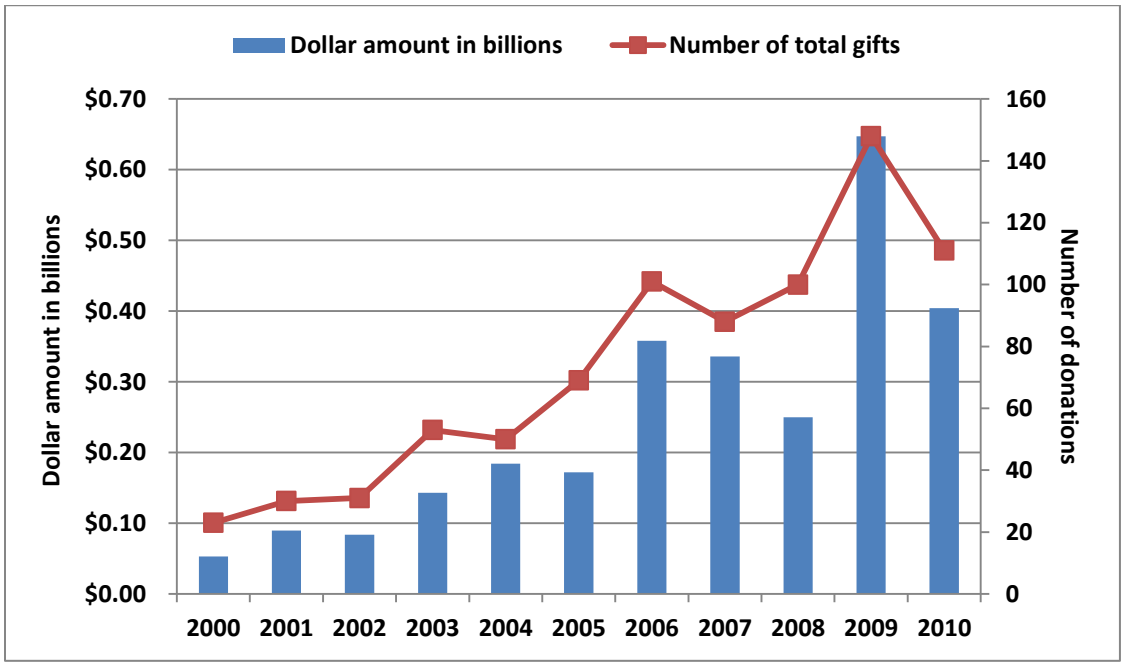
Figure 1. Trends in million dollar donations to developing countries, 2000-2010

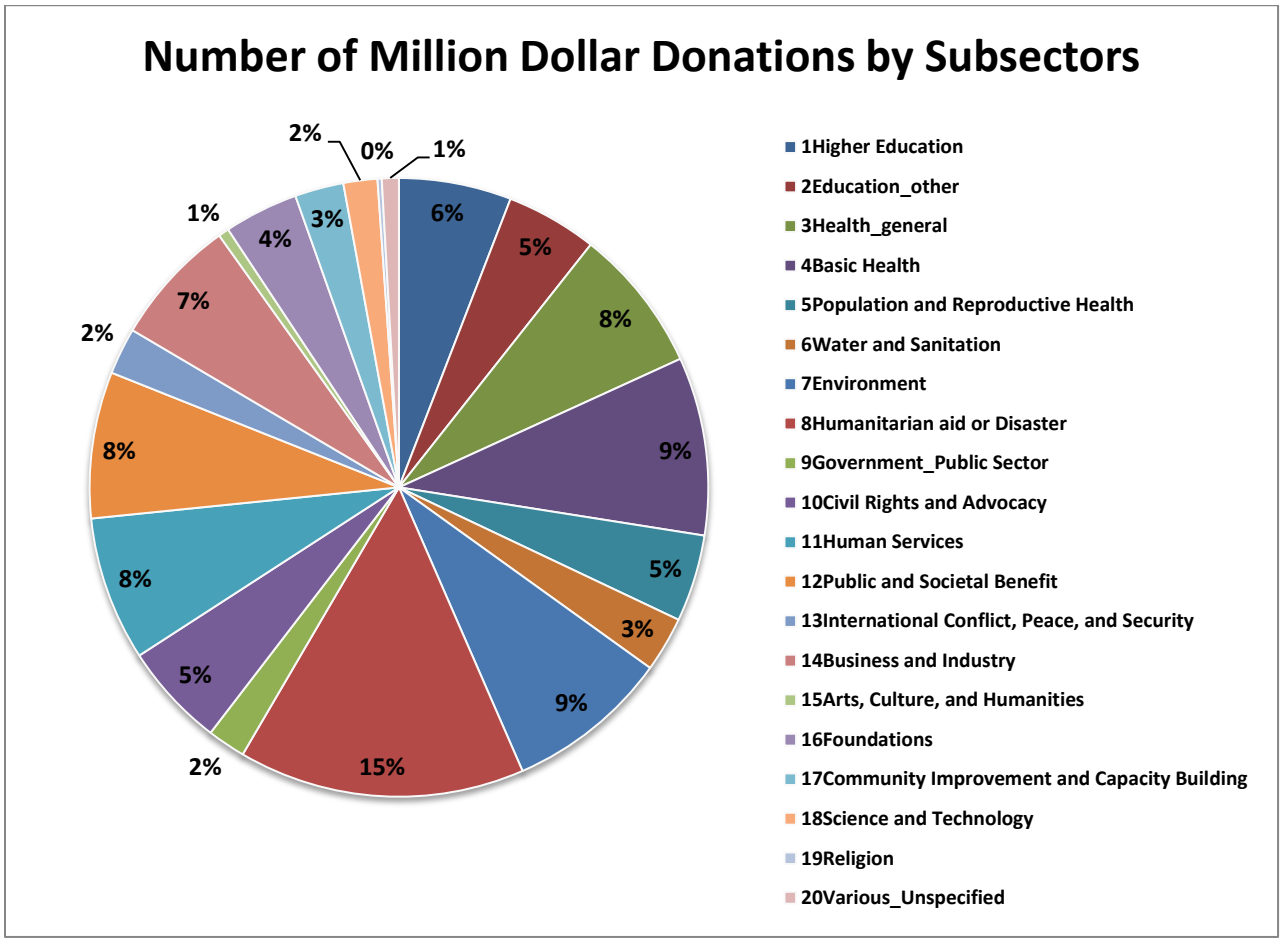
(Tax records, Million Dollar List)



Source: The Million Dollar List, Indiana University School of Philanthropy

Figure 2: Million dollar donations to developing countries by cause, 2000-2010

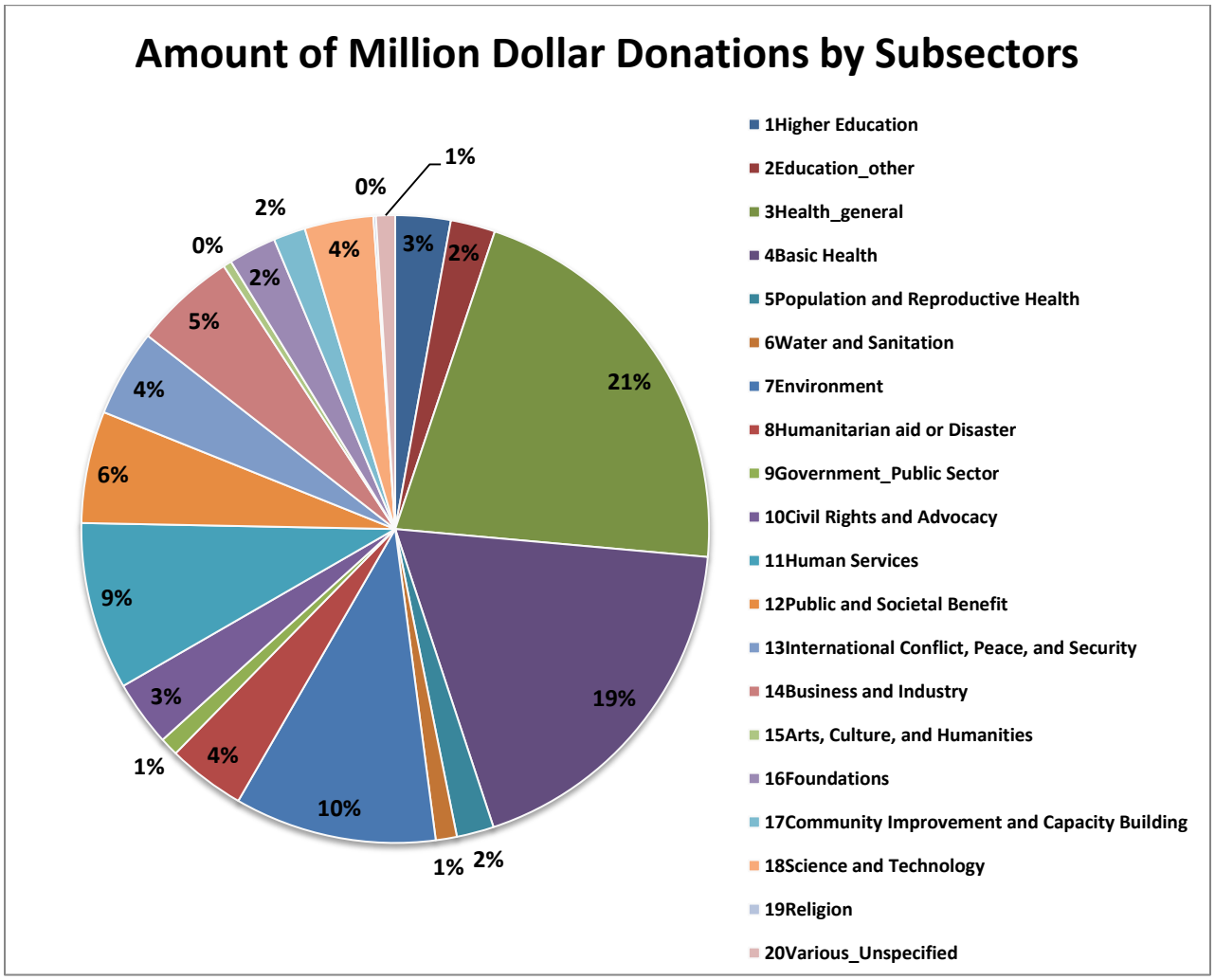
(Publicly Announced donations only, MDL database)



Source: The Million Dollar List, Indiana University School of Philanthropy

Figure 3: Million dollar donations to developing countries by cause, 2000-2010

(Publicly Announced donations, MDL database)



Source: The Million Dollar List, Indiana University School of Philanthropy

Table 1: Definition of key variables

Dependent variables

Variable Name	Definition	Source
Number of Million Dollar Donations	Number of Million Dollar Donations per year received in a given country annually 2000-2011	Million Dollar List: http://www.milliondollarlist.org/
Total Value of Million Dollar Donations	Amount of Million Dollar Donation per year received in a given country (in U.S. Dollars) annually 2000-2011	Million Dollar List: http://www.milliondollarlist.org/

Independent variables

GDP per capita	GDP per capita per country, per year;	World Bank
Population	Population per country, per year;	International Programs, US Census Bureau
Disaster	Number of disasters per country, per year	EM-DAT - The International Disaster Database (CRED)
Death Toll	Number of death in disasters per country, per year	EM-DAT - The International Disaster Database (CRED)
Distance	The distance from U.S., in miles	DistanceFromTo.net
Religion	The percentage level of a given religion in the total population of the country (0 = no denomination presence; 1 = less than 15%; 2 = 15 to 30%; 3 = over 30%)	The Association of Religion Data Archives (ARDA): http://www.thearda.com/internationalData/countries
Continent	"1" if it is an African country, Asian, European country, South America etc	Million Dollar List: http://www.milliondollarlist.org/
Female Literacy	Percentage of adult females that are literate (adults are 15 and older)	World Bank
Female Mortality	Mortality rate, adult, female (per 1,000 female adults)	World Bank
Female Life Expectancy	The expected years of life at birth for female population	World Bank
Female Labor Participation Rate	Percentage of female population ages 15+ in the labor market	World Bank

Table 2: Summary Statistics

Dependent variables, per country, per year, 2000 - 2010 (donations to unspecified and multiple countries included)

Variable Name	N	Mean	Std. Dev.	Maximum	Minimum
Total Number of Million Dollar Donations, per country, per year	550	1.461818	3.504537	0	58
Total Dollar Amount of Million Dollar Donations, per country, per year	550	4.946267	13.53094	0	170.1547
Total Number of Million Dollar Donations, per country, 2000-2010	50	16.08	25.26661	1	131
Total Dollar Amount of Million Dollar Donations, per country, 2000-2010	50	54.40894	78.90457	1.184241	328.0011

Independent variables, per country, 2000 (unspecified and multiple countries excluded)

Variable Name	N	Mean	Std. Dev.	Maximum	Minimum
GDP_per_capita	50	1879.20	1852.37	162.93	7598.05
Population	50	2299601.00	8110907.00	606.00	45000000.00
Disaster	50	5.68	6.25	0.00	29.00
Death Toll	50	219.64	435.64	0.00	2817.00
Distance (miles)	50	6454.67	2508.90	1015.54	9332.26
Adult Literacy	50	71.28	23.08	27.50	99.75
Adult Mortality	50	75.60	52.85	10.80	199.30
Adult Life Expectancy	48	61.38	10.54	41.93	77.80

Table 3: Country-level determinants of the likelihood of million dollar plus donations to developing countries: Fixed effects logistic specification, using tax records of MDL

Dependent variable: Annual Indicator variable for whether a country received a donation in a given year, 2000-2010

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
GDP per capita (logs)	0.628**	0.916**	0.690*	0.691**	0.861**
	(0.320)	(0.369)	(0.368)	(0.329)	(0.390)
GDP per capita squared (logs)	-0.025	-0.034*	-0.027	-0.027	-0.033*
	(0.018)	(0.018)	(0.019)	(0.018)	(0.019)
Population (logs, 10^8)	2.370***	2.366***	2.374***	2.567***	2.524***
	(0.368)	(0.366)	(0.368)	(0.397)	(0.396)
Population squared (logs)	-0.095***	-0.094***	-0.095***	-0.102***	-0.100***
	(0.015)	(0.015)	(0.015)	(0.016)	(0.016)
Disaster	0.029	0.028	0.029	0.028	0.027
	(0.025)	(0.025)	(0.025)	(0.025)	(0.025)
DeathToll	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	0.000	-0.000
	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
GovtEffectiveness	0.022***	0.024***	0.022***	0.023***	0.025***
	(0.007)	(0.007)	(0.007)	(0.007)	(0.007)
Adult Mortality (logs)		0.292			0.248
		(0.200)			(0.222)
Adult Literacy (logs)			-0.152		0.152
			(0.437)		(0.473)
Adult Life Expectancy (logs)				-0.957	-0.782
				(0.616)	(0.642)
_cons	-18.184***	-21.036***	-17.886***	-15.721***	-18.890***
	(2.719)	(3.377)	(2.842)	(3.155)	(4.333)
N	500	500	500	500	500
pseudo R^2	0.164	0.167	0.164	0.167	0.169

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < 0.10$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table 4: Aggregate country-level determinants of total number of million dollar plus donations to developing countries: OLS Specification, using tax records of MDL
Dependent variable: Total number of million dollar plus donations to developing countries, 2000-2010

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
GDP per capita in 2000 (logs)	-6.119	-8.169	-9.722	-31.002
	(25.606)	(22.305)	(27.584)	(27.085)
GDP per capita in 2000 squared (logs)	0.955	1.004	1.146	2.721
	(1.936)	(1.648)	(1.905)	(2.020)
Population in 2000 (logs, 10^8)	-4.400	-4.909	-5.380	-4.816
	(11.707)	(10.333)	(11.107)	(11.753)
Population in 2000 squared (logs, 10^8)	0.227	0.242	0.260	0.222
	(0.465)	(0.415)	(0.439)	(0.470)
Disaster2000	2.387	2.312	2.419	2.250
	(1.531)	(1.446)	(1.505)	(1.549)
Death2000	0.018*	0.019*	0.018*	0.019*
	(0.010)	(0.010)	(0.010)	(0.009)
Distance (logs)	-15.863*	-18.642**	-15.251**	-14.484*
	(7.847)	(7.476)	(6.246)	(8.567)
Adult Mortality in 2000 (logs)	-0.333			14.332
	(7.815)			(9.777)
Adult Literacy in 2000 (logs)		9.184		15.978*
		(8.255)		(9.325)
Adult Life Expectancy in 2000 (logs)			14.842	53.888*
			(28.104)	(29.866)
Continent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Religion	No	No	No	No
_cons	134.642	131.723	88.176	-134.942
	(153.913)	(117.651)	(117.751)	(226.230)
N	50	50	50	50
R^2	0.656	0.666	0.658	0.680

Standard errors in parentheses
* $p < 0.10$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table 5: Aggregate country-level determinants of total number of million dollar plus donations to developing countries: Poisson Specification, using tax records of MDL – with continent controls
Dependent variable: Total number of million dollar plus donations to developing countries, 2000-2010

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
GDP per capita in 2000 (logs)	-0.911	-0.836	-0.743	-2.424
	(1.488)	(1.431)	(1.501)	(1.711)
GDP per capita in 2000 squared (logs)	0.113	0.098	0.094	0.217*
	(0.108)	(0.101)	(0.105)	(0.121)
Population in 2000 (logs, 10^8)	1.024***	1.029***	1.037***	0.824**
	(0.343)	(0.375)	(0.357)	(0.327)
Population in 2000 squared (logs, 10^8)	-0.038***	-0.038**	-0.038***	-0.031**
	(0.014)	(0.015)	(0.014)	(0.014)
Disaster2000	0.092***	0.088***	0.090***	0.089***
	(0.012)	(0.015)	(0.011)	(0.015)
Death2000	0.000**	0.000**	0.000***	0.000**
	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
Distance (logs)	-0.036	-0.124	-0.106	0.129
	(0.194)	(0.216)	(0.186)	(0.218)
Adult Mortality in 2000 (logs)	0.268			1.195*
	(0.329)			(0.613)
Adult Literacy in 2000 (logs)		0.153		0.823
		(0.694)		(0.726)
Adult Life Expectancy in 2000 (logs)			-0.065	3.923
			(1.461)	(2.577)
Continent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Religion	No	No	No	No
_cons	-4.477	-3.199	-2.921	-22.548*
	(5.131)	(5.422)	(7.521)	(13.371)
N	50	50	50	50
R^2				

Table 6: Aggregate country-level determinants of the likelihood of million dollar plus donations to developing countries: Logistic Specification, using tax records of MDL – with Continent controls
Dependent variable: Dummy variable for whether a country received more than the median number of donations for all countries, 2000-2010

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
GDP per capita in 2000 (logs)	-10.130	-8.606	-8.169	-29.335**
	(8.012)	(7.440)	(7.629)	(11.567)
GDP per capita in 2000 squared (logs)	0.936	0.764	0.766	2.468***
	(0.580)	(0.546)	(0.554)	(0.869)
Population in 2000 (logs, 10^8)	6.358*	5.423	6.011	10.729**
	(3.667)	(4.008)	(3.721)	(4.687)
Population in 2000 squared (logs, 10^8)	-0.253*	-0.219	-0.238*	-0.473*
	(0.136)	(0.150)	(0.141)	(0.249)
Disaster2000	0.104	0.125	0.120	0.135
	(0.181)	(0.183)	(0.184)	(0.196)
Death2000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002
	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.003)
Distance (logs)	-3.192	-3.952	-4.058	-6.786**
	(2.807)	(2.893)	(2.795)	(3.313)
Adult Mortality in 2000 (logs)	1.555			8.511***
	(1.399)			(3.190)
Adult Literacy in 2000 (logs)		0.738		6.322**
		(1.619)		(2.732)
Adult Life Expectancy in 2000 (logs)			-3.537	13.730*
			(5.422)	(7.819)
Continent Controls	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Religion Controls	No	No	No	No
_cons	3.833	16.058	27.847	-45.525
	(42.672)	(40.031)	(45.059)	(65.048)
N	50	50	50	50
pseudo R^2	0.499	0.486	0.490	0.556

Standard errors in parentheses
* $p < 0.10$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table 7: Aggregate country-level determinants of total amount of million dollar plus donations to developing countries: OLS Specification, using tax records of MDL – with continent controls

Dependent variable: Log total amount of million dollar plus donations to developing countries, 2000-2010 (in U.S. dollars)

	(1) Total Amount of Donations (logs)	(2) Total Amount of Donations (logs)	(3) Total Amount of Donations (logs)	(4) Total Amount of Donations (logs)
GDP per capita in 2000 (logs)	0.032	-0.201	-0.750	-1.478
	(1.700)	(1.721)	(1.844)	(2.062)
GDP per capita in 2000 squared (logs)	0.038	0.062	0.090	0.145
	(0.126)	(0.126)	(0.130)	(0.148)
Population in 2000 (logs, 10^8)	1.124**	1.205**	1.030**	1.059**
	(0.487)	(0.515)	(0.490)	(0.489)
Population in 2000 squared (logs, 10^8)	-0.042**	-0.045**	-0.039*	-0.041**
	(0.019)	(0.021)	(0.020)	(0.020)
Disaster2000	0.076***	0.071***	0.079***	0.074***
	(0.022)	(0.026)	(0.023)	(0.024)
Death2000	0.000	0.000	0.000*	0.000
	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
Distance (logs)	-1.013**	-0.982*	-0.831*	-0.754
	(0.493)	(0.517)	(0.434)	(0.518)
Adult Mortality in 2000 (logs)	-0.302			0.507
	(0.485)			(0.678)
Adult Literacy in 2000 (logs)		0.198		0.410
		(0.607)		(0.686)
Adult Life Expectancy in 2000 (logs)			2.576	3.984
			(2.110)	(2.731)
Continent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Religion	No	No	No	No
_cons	3.102	0.846	-6.780	-14.746
	(7.827)	(7.337)	(9.924)	(14.642)
N	50	50	50	50
R^2	0.609	0.606	0.624	0.630

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < 0.10$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table 8: Aggregate country-level determinants of total amount of million dollar plus donations to developing countries: Tobit Specification, using tax records of MDL

Dependent variable: Log total amount of million dollar plus donations to developing countries, 2000-2010 (in U.S. dollars)

	(1) Total Amount of Donations (logs)	(2) Total Amount of Donations (logs)	(3) Total Amount of Donations (logs)	(4) Total Amount of Donations (logs)
GDP per capita in 2000 (logs)	0.032	-0.201	-0.750	-1.478
	(1.871)	(1.865)	(1.856)	(2.043)
GDP per capita in 2000 squared (logs)	0.038	0.062	0.090	0.145
	(0.135)	(0.132)	(0.131)	(0.147)
Population in 2000 (logs, 10^8)	1.124**	1.205**	1.030**	1.059**
	(0.491)	(0.478)	(0.481)	(0.480)
Population in 2000 squared (logs, 10^8)	-0.042**	-0.045**	-0.039**	-0.041**
	(0.020)	(0.019)	(0.019)	(0.019)
Disaster2000	0.076**	0.071**	0.079**	0.074**
	(0.035)	(0.035)	(0.034)	(0.034)
Death2000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
Distance (logs)	-1.013*	-0.982	-0.831	-0.754
	(0.578)	(0.587)	(0.557)	(0.595)
Adult Mortality in 2000 (logs)	-0.302			0.507
	(0.391)			(0.638)
Adult Literacy in 2000 (logs)		0.198		0.410
		(0.477)		(0.558)
Adult Life Expectancy in 2000 (logs)			2.576	3.984
			(1.603)	(2.407)
_cons	3.102	0.846	-6.780	-14.746
	(8.206)	(7.706)	(8.900)	(13.428)
sigma				
_cons	0.892***	0.896***	0.875***	0.868***
	(0.089)	(0.090)	(0.087)	(0.087)
N	50	50	50	50
pseudo R^2	0.265	0.263	0.276	0.280

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < 0.10$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Appendix A: Top 10 recipient countries of million dollar donations, 2000-2010 (developing countries only)

Recipient country	Number of donations (Tax Records)	Recipient country	Number of donations (Public Announcements)
China	131	India	47
India	106	South Africa	44
South Africa	63	Haiti	38
Mexico	54	Kenya	30
Kenya	43	Mexico	21
Bangladesh	39	Russia	16
Brazil	35	Brazil	15
Philippines	24	Nigeria	14
Colombia	20	China	13
Uganda	19	Ethiopia	11
Recipient country	***Value of donations (Tax Records) In millions $**	**Recipient country**	***Value of donations (Public Announcements) In millions $**
China	328	Kenya	514
Kenya	301	India	449
India	283	Mexico	434
Mexico	207	Botswana	202
Guatemala	166	South Africa	177
South Africa	154	Jamaica	124
Botswana	123	Thailand	113
Philippines	116	China	99
Bangladesh	101	Brazil	72.6
Russia	92	Haiti	60

Source: The Million Dollar List, Indiana University School of Philanthropy

* Value of donations is estimated in millions of U.S. dollars, inflation adjusted to 2011 dollars

Appendix B: Million dollar donations to international causes by recipient country, 2000-2010 (developing countries only) Publicly Announced Donations

Recipient country	Number of donations	Value of donations (in 2011 million U.S. dollar)
Afghanistan	1	2.612
Angola	2	11.800
Bangladesh	9	43.500
Bhutan	2	2.613
Bolivia	1	2.428
Botswana	6	202.000
Brazil	15	72.600
Bulgaria	1	15.700
Cambodia	3	8.258
Central African Republic	1	1.754
Chad	1	1.828
Chile	3	16.600
China	13	98.600
Colombia	7	33.000
Costa Rica	1	1.270
Democratic Republic of Congo	1	42.500
Ecuador	2	3.249
Egypt	2	2.355
El Salvador	1	3.810
Ethiopia	11	31.300
Ghana	10	36.000
Guatemala	1	45.700
Haiti	38	59.800
India	47	449.000
Indonesia	7	34.900
Iraq	1	5.424
Jamaica	1	124.000
Kenya	30	514.000
Latvia	2	20.200
Lebanon	1	14.900
Lesotho	1	4.890
Liberia	3	11.700

Malawi	1	2.682
Mexico	21	434.000
Moldova	1	1.250
Mozambique	1	6.531
Myanmar	3	3.134
Namibia	1	4.890
Nepal	1	1.116
Nigeria	14	34.500
Pakistan	3	9.715
Paraguay	1	1.165
Peru	6	32.800
Philippines	8	24.900
Romania	1	28.100
Russia	16	32.100
Rwanda	1	1.048
Senegal	6	43.400
Serbia	2	18.300
South Africa	44	177.000
Sri Lanka	1	2.304
Sudan	6	10.100
Swaziland	1	4.890
Tanzania	6	16.200
Thailand	9	113.000
Uganda	7	31.100
Vietnam	7	19.700
Zambia	2	6.196
Zimbabwe	3	12.000
Unspecified	262	4010.000
Various	238	3310.000
Various - Africa	3	167.000
Various - Asia	1	4.146
Total	902	10500

Appendix C: Million dollar donations to developing countries by cause, 2000-2010 (developing countries only)

Subsector	Number of donations	Value of donations (in 2011 U.S. million dollars)	% in total number of donations	% in total dollar value of donations
1Higher Education	53	298	0.058758	0.028433
2Education_other	43	241	0.047672	0.022994
3Health_general	68	2230	0.075388	0.212768
4Basic Health	84	1940	0.093126	0.185099
5Population and Reproductive Health	41	201	0.045455	0.019178
6Water and Sanitation	26	114	0.028825	0.010877
7Environment	77	1090	0.085366	0.103999
8Humanitarian aid or Disaster	135	419	0.149667	0.039977
9Government_Public Sector	18	100	0.019956	0.009541
10Civil Rights and Advocacy	49	355	0.054324	0.033871
11Human Services	68	905	0.075388	0.086348
12Public and Societal Benefit	69	604	0.076497	0.057629
13International Conflict, Peace, and Security	22	470	0.02439	0.044843
14Business and Industry	60	550	0.066519	0.052476
15Arts, Culture, and Humanities	5	45.3	0.005543	0.004322
16Foundations	35	258	0.038803	0.024616
17Community Improvement and Capacity Building	23	173	0.025499	0.016506
18Science and Technology	16	371	0.017738	0.035398
19Religion	2	13.6	0.002217	0.001298
20Various_Unspecified	8	103	0.008869	0.009827
Total	**902**	**10480.9**	**1**	**1**

Appendix D: Aggregate country-level determinants of the likelihood of million dollar plus donations to developing countries: Logistic specification, using tax records of MDL – with Religion controls

Dependent variable: Dummy variable for whether a country received a donation in a given year, 2000-2010

	(1) Probability of Receiving Donation	(2) Probability of Receiving Donation	(3) Probability of Receiving Donation	(4) Probability of Receiving Donation
GDP per capita in 2000 (logs)	-11.460	-10.095	-6.423	-6.773
	(9.752)	(8.569)	(11.472)	(10.437)
GDP per capita in 2000 squared (logs)	1.157	1.007	0.772	0.807
	(0.770)	(0.635)	(0.926)	(0.779)
Population in 2000 (logs, 10^8)	15.683**	18.101***	17.533*	18.494***
	(6.626)	(6.287)	(9.455)	(6.186)
Population in 2000 squared (logs, 10^8)	-0.660**	-0.766***	-0.734*	-0.775***
	(0.287)	(0.273)	(0.394)	(0.265)
Disaster2000	0.103	0.177	0.093	0.123
	(0.141)	(0.184)	(0.127)	(0.182)
Death2000	-0.001	-0.004	-0.001	-0.002
	(0.003)	(0.004)	(0.003)	(0.006)
Distance (logs)	0.036	1.420	-1.398	-0.589
	(1.418)	(1.449)	(1.545)	(2.786)
Adult Mortality in 2000 (logs)	2.687			-0.356
	(1.963)			(2.689)
Adult Literacy in 2000 (logs)		-3.336		-1.969
		(2.977)		(7.110)
Adult Life Expectancy in 2000 (logs			-11.671	-10.285
			(7.590)	(9.850)
Continent	No	No	No	No
Religion	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
_cons	-94.584*	-99.658*	-51.016	-60.189
	(50.185)	(51.562)	(41.742)	(54.330)
N	48	48	48	48
pseudo R^2	0.573	0.559	0.579	0.583

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < 0.10$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$